

Renee Hargreaves

Belmont, Ca 94002

December 12, 2005

Jack O' Connell
State Superintendent of Schools
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

Dear Superintendent O'Connell,

I am writing in regard to the public meeting about the CAHSEE . I agree that investigating alternatives is a necessary task. Many students will not be able to pass the exam, although they have mastery of the subjects. Students who are in the class of 2006, particularly those with IEPs, have anticipated that they may have an exemption this year, although this is now not the case. There are many students who will not pass, and many of them will be students with IEPs. It's now halfway into the school year, and it will be difficult to create alternative assessments or standardize criteria for substitute programs. The school districts have set rigorous criteria for graduation that are consistent with NCLB. The course equivalent alternative could be used without the necessity of administering a substitute program, which would be too lengthy a process to do in an equitable fashion before the next test date . The course equivalent alternative should be used for students with IEPs.

Renee Hargreaves